

Message Text

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APPROVED BY: P:EPDJEREJIAN

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S/S - MR LUERS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

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TOSEC 624 FOR UNDER SECRETARY SISCO

FOLLOWING REPEAT REYKJAVIK 654 SENT SECSTATE INFO NATO
CINCLANT COMICEDEFOR SECDEF DATED MAY 13.

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UNCLAS REYKJAVIK 0654

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR MARR NATO IC

SUBJECT: IDF RETENTION ISSUE: CABINET MINISTERS

INTERVIEWED ON DEVELOPMENTS

1. OPPOSITION INDEPENDENCE PARTY NEWSPAPER VISIR PUBLISHED
TEXT MAY 10 OF SHORT INTERVIEW ON DEFENSE AFFAIRS WITH FONMIN
AGUSTSSON AND MIN INDUSTRIES MAGNUS KJARTANSSON. WHEN ASKED IF
ANY DEVELOPMENTS WERE EXPECTED IN DEFENSE MATTER PRIOR TO
JUNE 30 NATIONAL ELECTIONS, AGUSTSSON REPLIED, "I DO NOT EX-
PECT ANYTHING WILL HAPPEN EXCEPT THAT THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT
MIGHT REPLY TO THE PROPOSALS WHICH I DELIVERED IN WASHINGTON
ON APRIL 8 AND 9. IF A REPLY WERE TO COME FROM THE
UNITED STATES, WE COULD RECEIVE IT BUT NOT DO ANYTHING
BECAUSE WE HAVE NO ALTHING TO CONSULT." WHEN ASKED ABOUT
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THE PROPOSED LIMITATION ON TV TRANSMISSIONS FROM THE BASE,

AGUSTSSON SAID, "IN THE CASE OF THE TV, PROCEDURES WILL BE AS ALREADY STATED. THE TRANSMISSION POWER WILL BE LIMITED WHEN TECHNICAL PREPARATIONS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED."

2. WHEN ASKED SAME QUESTIONS, KJARTANSSON SAID, "THE POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT IN REGARD TO THE MILITARY BASE IS CLEAR. IT IS EXPRESSED IN THE AGREEMENT OF MARCH 20 WHICH THE FOREIGN MINISTER TOOK TO WASHINGTON. THE FOREIGN MINISTER INTENDS TO WAIT FOR A REPLY FROM THE UNITED STATES. WE REGARD THE AGREEMENT AS THE GOVERNMENT'S VIEWS. IT WILL NOT BE CHANGED WITHOUT CONSULTING THE GOVERNMENT PARTIMES. IF THE US AGREES TO OUR PROPOSALS--WHICH I DO NOT CONSIDER IMPOSSIBLE--AN AGREEMENT BASED ON THOSE PROPOSALS CAN BE MADE. THE FOREIGN MINISTER HAS DECLARED TIME AND TIME AGAIN THAT THE DEFENSE AGREEMENT WILL NOT BE TERMINATED WITHOUT THE APPROVAL OF THE ALTHING."

3. CONCERNING BASE TV, KJARTANSSON SAID, "ICELANDIC AUTHORITIES CAN MAKE DECISIONS REGARDING THE OPERATIONS OF THE KEFLAVIK TV WHICH NOBODY ELSE CAN INTERFERE WITH. THE GOVERNMENT HAS DECLARED THAT THE TRANSMISSION OF THE TV IS TO BE LIMITED AND NOW IT IS ONLY WAITING FOR THE TECHNICAL PREPARATIONS TO BE MADE TO FOLLOW UP THAT DECISION."
IRVING UNQUOTE RUSH

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